

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 IO-10

ACDA-05 AID-05 MC-02 IGA-01 /089 W

----- 048692

R 140950Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8472

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR/VAIHINGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T TUNIS 1500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TS

SUBJ: GOT DEFENSE AUGMENTATION

REF: TUNIS 0047 (NOTAL) STATE 043531

1. THE PLAN FORWARDED BY TUNIS 0047 HAS BEEN FURTHER REFINED. A COMBINED MILITARY STUDY COMMITTEE (CMSC) HAS BEEN FORMED FROM MOD STAFF AND USLOT. COMMITTEE RECEIVED INITIAL GUIDANCE FROM AHMED BENNOUR, SECRETARY STATE TO THE MINISTER OF THE DEFENSE. BENNOUR ESTABLISHED THREE PRIORITIES AS FOLLOWS: (1) SURVEILLANCE RADAR (2) INTERCEPTOR AIRCRAFT (3) MISSILES-SURFACE AIR AND ANTI TANK. BENNOUR EMPHASIZED THAT TUNISIA HAS NO AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS BUT DOES NEED TO BOLSTER ITS DEFENSIVE FORCES WHICH HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED WHILE GOVERNMENT RESOURCES WERE DEDICATED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO THE NATION'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

2. CMSC HAS REFINED PLAN TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC DEFENSIVE ITEMS:

A. EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

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SYSTEM TO INCLUDE A RADAR SET OF APPROXI-

MATELY 350 KM SLANT RANGE AND A COORDINATION  
CENTER FOR VECTORING INTERCEPTORS.

RADAR TO PROVIDE EARLY WARNING OF AERIAL  
SURFACE APPROACH TO SOUTHERN BORDERS. RADAR TO BE COM-  
PATIBLE WITH RADAR SET ALREADY AT BIZERTE IN AN INTE-  
GRATED EARLY WARNING SYSTEM. IT APPEARS THAT AN/FPS-20  
MAY BE LIKELY CANDIDATE. ESTIMATED COST OF SYSTEM  
APPROXIMATELY 0.5 MILLION DOLS.

B. TWELVE INTERCEPTOR AIRCRAFT. TEN SINGLE-SEAT  
TWO DUAL SEAT. EITHER 10 A4M AND 2TA4F OR 10 F5E AND  
2 F5F. ESTIMATED COST APPROXIMATELY 70.7 MILLION DOLS.

C. MISSILES. TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE AIR DEFENSE  
GOT ESTIMATES IT WILL NEED NINE HAWK BATTERIES (\$82 MIL):  
NINE CHAPPARAL FIRE ELEMENTS (\$15 MIL): THIRTY-SIX  
REDEYE (\$1 MIL). FOR ANTI TANK DEFENSE GOT DESIRES  
20 TOW LAUNCHERS (\$1.7 MIL). FOREGOING PRICE ESTIMATES  
CONSIDER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT, TRAINING, SPARE PART  
SUPPORT, CURRENT COMPATIBLE EQUIPMENT (E.G. TRUCKS, RADIOS,  
ETC).

3. TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE ESTIMATED TO COST BETWEEN  
\$150-175 MILLION. AVAILABILITY INFORMATION INDICATES  
EQUIPMENT COULD ARRIVE 20-48 MONTHS, IF RELEASABLE.

4. COL THOMAS, CHUSLOT, ARRIVING FOR MIDTOUR ORIENTATION  
BRIEFINGS 24 MARCH. HE CAN DISCUSS IN FURTHER DETAIL.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, ARMED FORCES  
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